

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In the matter of the adoption of an) NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AN
emergency rule closing Pictograph) EMERGENCY RULE
Cave State Park in Yellowstone)
County)

TO: All Concerned Persons

1. The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (department) has determined the following reasons justify the adoption of an emergency rule closing Pictograph Cave State Park (park):

- (a) A rock fall has occurred in the park obstructing the road.
- (b) Due to the potential of another rock fall and conditions present on the ground, persons occupying the park are in danger of personal injury.
- (c) Therefore, as this situation constitutes an imminent peril to public health, safety, and welfare, and this threat cannot be averted or remedied by any other administrative act, the department adopts the following emergency rule. The emergency rule will be sent as a press release to newspapers throughout the state. Also, signs informing the public of the closure will be posted at access points. The rule will be sent to interested parties, and published as an emergency rule in Issue No. 2 of the 2021 Montana Administrative Register.

2. The department will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in the rulemaking process and need an alternative accessible format of the notice. If you require an accommodation, contact the department no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 12, 2021, to advise us of the nature of the accommodation that you need. Please contact Kaedy Gangstad, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701; telephone (406) 444-4594; or e-mail kgangstad@mt.gov.

3. The emergency rule is effective January 21, 2021, when this rule notice is filed with the Secretary of State.

4. The text of the emergency rule provides as follows:

NEW RULE I PICTOGRAPH CAVE STATE PARK EMERGENCY CLOSURE

- (1) Pictograph Cave State Park is located in Yellowstone County.
- (2) Pictograph Cave State Park is closed to all public occupation and recreation.
- (3) This rule will expire as soon as the department determines Pictograph Cave State Park is again safe for occupation and recreation. Signs restricting use of Pictograph Cave State Park will be removed when the rule is no longer effective.

AUTH: 2-4-303, 23-1-106, MCA
IMP: 2-4-303, 23-1-106, MCA

5. The rationale for the emergency rule is set forth in paragraph 1.

6. Concerned persons are encouraged to submit their comments to the department. Please submit comments along with names and addresses to: Kaedy Gangstad, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT, 59602-0701; e-mail kgangstad@mt.gov. Any comments must be received no later than February 26, 2021.

7. The department maintains a list of interested persons who wish to receive notice of rulemaking actions proposed by the department or commission. Persons who wish to have their name added to the list shall make written request that includes the name and mailing address of the person to receive the notice and specifies the subject or subjects about which the person wishes to receive notice. Such written request may be mailed or delivered to Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Legal Unit, P.O. Box 200701, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, MT 59620-0701, faxed to the office at (406) 444-7456, or may be made by completing the request form at any rules hearing held by the department.

8. The bill sponsor contact requirements of 2-4-302, MCA, do not apply.

/s/ Aimee Hawkaluk
Aimee Hawkaluk
Rule Reviewer

/s/ Dustin Temple
Dustin Temple
Acting Director
Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Certified to the Secretary of State January 21, 2021.